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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/960,318	09/24/2001	Michael L. Edwards	BS01-237	5343
7590	01/26/2005		EXAMINER	
WITHERS & KEYS, LLC P.O.Box 71355 Marietta, GA 30007-1355			KNOWLIN, THJUAN P	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2642	

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/960,318	EDWARDS, MICHAEL L.	
	Examiner Thjuan P Knowlin	Art Unit 2642	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 October 2004.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-55 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-55 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

1. Claims 1-55 are rejected under 102(b) as being anticipated by Lin et al (US 6,185,519).
2. In regards to claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 35, 44, 45, 46, 48, 49, 50, 52, 53, and 54, Lin discloses a feature interaction detection system, wherein switch-based features and AIN features are compared by a mediator. When features are provided by different providers, a mediator is needed to compare and analyze the different sets of feature packages (See Abstract). Lin discloses a system, method, and computer-readable medium for comparing feature package operational statuses of two or more switches, the system comprising: a first switch (SSP 102)), the first switch including a first set of feature packages (switch based features 306); a second switch (SCP 104), the second switch including a second set of feature packages (AIN features 304); a computer (computer system 501) coupled to the first switch and to the second switch (Fig. 5), the computer to receive a first set of feature

package information and a second set of feature package information (col. 6 lines 1-7 and col. 6 lines 20-32), the first set of feature package information corresponding to the first set of feature packages, the second set of feature package information corresponding to the second set of feature packages, the computer to compare the first set of feature package information with the second set of feature package information (col. 5 lines 14-32, col. 19 lines 2-21, and col. 27 lines 16-34).

3. In regards to claims 2, 16, 42, and 43, Lin discloses the system and method, wherein the first switch is a first telecommunications switch and the second switch is a second telecommunications switch (Abstract and col. 19 lines 2-21).

4. In regards to claims 6, 10, 19, 23, 29, 34, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, and 41, Lin discloses the system and method, wherein the computer is to receive a first switch identifier corresponding to the first switch and a second switch identifier corresponding to the second switch (col. 6 lines 1-7 and col. 6 lines 20-32).

5. In regards to claims 7 and 20, Lin discloses the system, wherein the first switch identifier is a first common language location identifier and the second switch identifier is a second common language location identifier (col. 6 lines 1-7 and col. 6 lines 20-32).

6. In regards to claims 9, 11, 12, 22, 24, 33, 47, 51, and 55, Lin discloses the system and method, wherein the first operational status is one of enabled and not enabled and the second operational status is the other of enabled and not enabled (col. 19 lines 15-21).

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-55 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

8. Applicant is advised that Feature Interaction Managers (FIMs) have been used for many years, because features from different providers may have a conflict. Some of Applicant's broad claims simply read on the old generic FIM.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Marks et al (US 5,715,303) teaches a method and system for configuring a telecommunication switch and identifying a record generated by same. Manabe et al (US 5,337,351) teach a feature interaction arbitrator.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan P Knowlin whose telephone number is (703) 308-1727. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-4:30pm.

11. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (703)305-4731. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

12. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Thjuan P. Knowlin



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